PDS Sugar for Income Tax assessees

4272. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE :

SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any representation requesting Government to withdraw their order to debar the income-tax payees from getting sugar from the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any decision has been taken in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact the sugar has been issued to every card holder from P.D.S. in the month of April, 2000; and

(d) if so, on what basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Since the State Governemtns wanted some more time to complete the process of identification of the income tax assesses among the Public Distribution System (PDS) card holders, it has been decided to implement the desion w.e.f. 1st July, 2000.

Non-delivery of Wheat Stock by Punjab

4273. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :

SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food Corporation of India has deducted Rs. 17.90 crores from the sale bills of Punjab and its agencies for non-delivery of wheat stock from mandis during the year 1997-98.

(b) whether FCI has intimated to Punjab and its agencies the details of centres at which they want to get mandi delivery of wheat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The SRM, Punjab, vide his letter No. P and S/wheat takeover/97-98 dated 19-3-97 requested State Government/agencies for issue of suitable instructions to concerned field officers for giving direct delivery of wheat to the FCI where space was available (Statement-I). (*See* below) : A list of purchase centre-wise space available with FCI for acceptance of direct delivery of wheat was made available to the State Government (Statement-II) (*See* below). The State Government did not give direct delievery of wheat to FCI, so the incidental charges were restricted upto 30-6-97, to the extent of space offered by FCI (Statement-III)

STATEMENT-I

Food Corporation of India

Punjab Region : Chandigarh

No. P&S/Wheat Take over/97-98 Dated : 19-3-1997

To

The Director Food & Supplies,
Punjab, Chandigarh.

2. The Managing Director,
Markfed/Bunsup/PSWC/Pb. Agro. Indst. Cor./Chandigarh.

Subject : Direct delievery of wheat from the proc. centres to FCI godowns during Rabi 1997-1998—regarding.

Sir,

FCI, Headquarters has decided that FCI should takeover the wheat from State Government & its agencies during the same month of the procurement to be made.

Keeping in view the above decision of Headquarters, you are requested to kindly issue suitable instructions to the concerned field officers of your

organisation for giving direct delivery of wheat to FCI godowns where space is available during Rabi 1997-98.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

Joint Manager (OPN)

C.C.

1. The District Manager, FCI,_____ (All DMs.)
   He is requested to contact the concerned officers of the State Government & its agencies for delivering wheat direct to the godowns of the FCI from mandis, to be operated by the State Government & its agencies during Rabi 1997-98.
2. The Dy. Manager (S & C), FCI, R.O.Pb. Chandigarh.
3. The Dy. Manager (F & A/CS), FCI, R.O.Pb. Chandigarh.
4. The Manager (M & P), FCI, H.Qs. New Delhi.
5. The Zonal Manager (N), FCI, New Delhi.

Joint Manager (OPN)

STATEMENT-II

Centrewise availability of space with FCI for taking direct delivery of wheat from State Government & its agencies during Rabi 1997-98.

1. Amritsar:

(i) Amritsar	50000
(ii) Jandiala	20000
(iii) T. Taran	10000
(iv) Butari	15000
(v) Bhikhiwind	20000
(vi) Tangra	41000
(vii) Beas	20000
(viii) N. Pannuwan	7000
(xi) Rayya	28000
Total	211000

2. Bhatinda :	
(i) Talwandi Saboo	18400
(ii) Budhlada	9850
(iii) Bareta	13100
(iv) Bhikhi	7950
Total	49300
3. Faridkot :	
(i) Monga	20000
(ii) Kotkapura	10000
(iii) Faridkot	15000
(iv) Malout	15000
Total	60000
4. Ferozepur :	
(i) Jalalabad	20000
(ii) Talwandi Bhai	20000
(iii) Roranwali	5000
(iv) Dharmakot	5000
Total	50000
5. Gurdaspur :	
(i) Batala	90300
(ii) Dhariwal	25500
(iii) Gurdaspur	22000
(iv) Dinanagar	10300
(v) Pathankot	7500
Total	155600

6. Hoshiarpur	
(i) Hoshiarpur	12000
(ii) Dasuya	10000
(iii) Tanda	20000
(iv) Nasrala	4000
Total	46000
7. Jalandhar :	
(i) Phillaur	10000
(ii) Banga	15000
(iii) Apra	5000
(iv) Adampur	6000
(v) Bhogpur	3000
Total	39000
8. Kapurthala :	
(i) Kapurthala	50000
(ii) Phagwara	5000
(iii) Bholath	2500
Total	57500
9. Ludhiana :	
(i) FSD Jagraon	20000
(ii) FSD Jamalpur	19000
(iii) Khamano	2000
(iv) Kilareipur	5000
(v) Gill Road	5000
(vi) Mullanpur	8000
(vii) Sahnewal	50000
(viii) Sanghol	15000
(ix) G.G. Silo	20000
Total	144000

10.	Patiala :	
	(i) Nebha	89500
	(ii) Patiala	37350
	(iii) Sirhind	14050
	(iv) Rajpura	29200
	TOTAL	170100

District-wise availability of space with FCI for taking direct delivery of wheat from State Government and its agencies during Rabi 1997-98

(Figures in MT)

Sl.No.	District	Space available
1.	Amritsar	211000
2.	Bhatinda	49300
3.	Faridkot	60000
4.	Ferozepur	50000
5.	Gurdaspur	155600
6.	Hoshiarpur	46000
7.	Jalandhar	39000
8.	Kapurthala	57500
9.	Ludhiana	144000
10.	Patiala	170100
	TOTAL	982500

STATEMENT-III

THE FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

REGIONAL OFFICE : PB : CHANDIGARH

No. P&S/Wheat Take over/97-98/626 Dated : 6-6-1997

The Director,

Food & Supplies Department,
Government of Punjab,
Chandigarh.

Subject : Direct delivery of wheat from the procurement centres to FCI Godowns during Rabi 1997-1998—Reg.

Sir,

I am to invite your kind attention towards your office letter No. PP-I/97 dated 6-5-1997 on the above mentioned subject.

In the aforesaid communication, it has been intimated that the State Government has taken a decision in consultation with the State Agencies not to deliver wheat stocks directly to FCI godowns out of the stocks procured during the current Rabi season. The pleas putforth in support of this contention *i.e.*, declined availability of wheat stocks as on 1-4-1997 as compared to corresponding period of last two years, arrangement of sufficient storage accommodations and watch and ward arrangements etc. are not at all convincing. It is pertinent that Government of India, Ministry of Food, New Delhi have already sanctioned payment of incidental charges on provisional basis vide their letter No. 192(2)/97-F.C. A/Cs dated 17-3-97 and these rates stand circulated to all the District Managers of FCI for admitting the claims of the State Government and its agencies. In case the State Government deliver wheat directly from the procurement centres to the FCI godowns as per details of the availability of the space intimated vide our letter of even no. dated 28-4-97, the State Agencies are entitled to the payment of Rs. 77.05 p. qtl. as per item (ii) of para 8 of the said Government of India's sanction letter even if the stocks were moved directly from the procurement centres to the godowns of FCI. The said amount of Rs. 77.05 included element of interest charges for two months @ 15.5% and custodian and maintenance charges for two months @ Re. 1/- per qtl. per month on the minimum support price and other charges incurred by the State Government & its Agencies. In fact the State Government earlier requested us to intimate the storage space available centrewise for taking direct delivery vide reference bearing No. FPI-(454)/97/3147 dated 9-4-97and reasons for abrupt change of this stand of the State Government is not understood.

In view of the above, the decision of the State Government contained in reference *ibid* is arbitrary and not based on the logical facts. As already intimated that FCI is having huge vacant storage accommodation and the stocks procured by the State Government/Agencies are meant for central pool which are ultimately to be taken over by FCI for dispatch to the deficit States to feel PDS and other beneficiary schemes. Moreover, our CAG auditors are adversely pointing out such observations for non-utilisation of the vacant storage accommodation with FCI. The matter was also discussed in the Performance Review meeting held at FCI HQrs. New Delhi in the last week of February and accordingly you were requested to issue suitable instructions to the concerned quarters for giving direct delivery of wheat to FCI godowns where adequate space is available. It was however, intimated by you that State Government/ Agencies will make direct delivery of wheat to FCI at such places where they have insufficient storage accommodation for which District Managers FCI and their counterparts of the concerned Agency would decide the places mutually. But we have not received any such communication either from your office or from any other State Agency whether such instructions were issued to the concerned field staff for identifying such places where the State Government/ Agencies will deliver the procured wheat stocks directly.

In the light of the above, it is informed that the incidental are payable to the State Government/Agencies as per the decision of the Government of India/ FCI and as the decision for direct delivery was communicated to you well in advance *i.e.*, vide our letter dated 19-3-97, the pleas now putforth by you in the aforesaid communication are not tenable, and as such the State Government/ Agencies will not be entitled to the carry over charges to the extent of the storage space offered for direct delivery vide our letter dated 28-4-1997. You are, therefore, again requested to issue suitable instructions to your field officers and Heads of other Agencies to offer direct delivery of wheat where sufficient storage capacity has already been intimated vide our letter dated 28-4-97. In the meanwhile we are also advising our District Managers to admit the claims of the State Government/Agencies strictly in accordance with the with the decision as mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,

Joint Manager (COML.)

For Sr. Regional Manager

CC to :—

2. All District Managers, FCI in Punjab Region.

3. Manager (M & P) FCI, Headquarters, New Delhi.

4. The Zonal Manager (N) FCI, New Delhi.

Sd/-

for Sr. Regional Manager

Construction of New FCI Godowns/Plinths/Ceilos in Punjab

4274. SADAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA :

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food Corporation of India proposes to construct new godowns/plinths/ceilos in Punjab for storage of wheat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN) : (a) and (b) Proposals for construction of godowns are framed under the Five Year Plans. During the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Food Corporation of India has constructed Plinths into covered godowns for the capacity of 33,360 MT in Punjab *i.e.*, Raipura-15000 MT and Tanda Urmar-18,3360 MT.

Reducing the Economic cost of Wheat and Rice

†4275. DR. D. MASTHAN :

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had decided to take action to reduce the economic cost of wheat and rice born by Food Corporation of India, while expressing concern over it.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.